

# The GRANGE

Issue: 81

SEPTEMBER 2000

## HELLO GRANGERS !

This is my first epistle as Chair and my first opportunity to thank all my well-wishers. You will have noticed, too, some minor changes in your Executive. We are all pleased to welcome back Helvi Hunter as Continuing Education Chair. I'm sure she already has great plans for our Training Suppers and special events. Of course, this means that we have had to say "goodbye" to Marg McGuigan as an Executive Member. Marg very ably filled the job for 2 Years. She will continue as Wednesday evening Day Captain and continue to work with Elaine Maloney in putting together the Newsletter. However, as Chair of Meeters and Greeters and general factotum in the Gallery, The Grange Executive job proved one too many. One other change is in the House Committee. Come this Fall Jane Heinemann will be off for a year in Paris (Lucky lady). Her position will be filled in rotation by members of the House Committee. Lastly the big change this year is my request to Georgette Caldwell to act as Vice-Chair in addition to her Staffing duties. Georgette will chair Grange meetings and represent The Grange when I cannot. This seemed a practical

move, we have had too many crises at The Grange in the past 12 months; Mona's accident last year, Helen Brown's death and Marguerite Larkin's accident this year, all pointed out need for back-up wherever possible. After all we are none of us getting younger and we all have commitments outside the Gallery, plus I really need the help, as you know I haven't lost any of my other "hats", though Pat Robertson has agreed to help with Research.

This year is a big year for the Gallery and The Grange. 100 years ago The Art Museum of Toronto was formed and ten years later thanks to "our" Harriette, The Grange became its home. The Grange was 90 years old then, now "she's" 180, an age to be proud of. Of course, at 180 the "dear old Grange", to quote Goldwin Smith, needs some cosmetic surgery. Jenny will no doubt explain this in her report. I feel, however, that I must mention our refurbished "Ladies", it's gorgeous! Everyone must take a look, (the fellows too if they're quick). Last but far from least, we all at The Grange must express our appreciation to Mona for her help and guidance in the past two years.

- Avril Stringer, Chair, The Grange.

## News of The Grange Community

- Georgette Caldwell, Vice-Chair / Grange Volunteers

Since our last issue The Grange has had two new volunteers join, Angel Hong and Dorothy Dranitsarow on the Sunday shift. We are also delighted to welcome back Alice Waldman Lewis to the ranks of the Tuesday shift.

Unfortunately, several volunteers have resigned due to time constraints or family commitments and two have left to pursue courses at university, Mimi Ng who has been accepted for post-graduate studies at Columbia University, New York and Brian Lodge who is pursuing further studies in his home province of Newfoundland. We wish them every success. We are happy to report that Marguerite Larkin of the Friday shift is convalescing slowly but surely from having broken her collar bone and Elise Alison is now back with the Wednesday afternoon shift after surgery in the early spring. Anna

Patrick of the Friday group is undergoing treatment for a knee problem but comes in whenever she is able.

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### Thank you to our Students

The Grange and the AGO would like to acknowledge and thank our summer student volunteers: Shirley Xie, Julie Lin, Olivia Lam, Cindy Dang, Alice Leung, Kunchuk Utamo Aathii, Kumala Nio, Agnes Wong, Yvonne Wong, Lisa Bastarache, Heather Cardona and Elizabeth Chen.

## The Grange Volunteer Executive 2000-2001

### CHAIR

Avril Stringer  
(905) 924-3642

### SECRETARY

Catherine Stroud  
(905) 528-6156

### TREASURER/RESEARCH

Avril Stringer  
Tel: (416) 924-3642

### COMMITTEES

#### CONTINUING EDUCATION

Helvi Hunter  
Tel: (416) 484-1074

#### HOUSE COMMITTEE

Rotation of the committee  
members while Jane Heinemann absent

#### HISTORIC KITCHENS

Anna Patrick  
Tel: (416) 322-0763

#### MODERN KITCHEN

Jane Ash & Elvira Putrus  
Tel: (416) 304-0251  
(416) 759-7175

#### VICE CHAIR GRANGE VOLUNTEERS

Georgette Caldwell  
Tel: (416) 654-1536

#### DAY CAPTAINS

Monday: Jane Heinemann  
(on leave)

Tuesday: Elvira Putrus

Wednesday: Cathy Stroud

Wednesday Bridge: Helvi Hunter

Wednesday Eve: Marg McGuigan

Thursday: June O'Brien

Friday: Beverley Sutton

Saturday: Katharine Brown

Sunday: Edna Rigby

#### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Elaine Maloney  
Tel: (416) 766-7000

#### CURATORIAL ASSISTANT

Jenny Rieger  
(416) 979-6660 ext: 237

## VOLUNTEER UP-COMING EVENTS

### View Lithographs by HRH The Prince of Wales

Date: Thursday, Sept. 7, 2000 at 1:00 pm (*limit 20 persons*)  
Yorkville House Studio

### The Grange Volunteer Training Suppers

*September: Carl Benn is back with us and he will talk on John Strachan.*

Date: Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2000. Music Room, The Grange

*October: Margaret Machell will talk on The Grange Furnishings*

Date: Monday, Oct. 16, 2000. Music Room, The Grange

### The Last Duel Chamber opera at the Macmillan Theatre

Dates: November 2, 3 & 4 at 8:00 pm and November 5 at 2:00 pm

### Victorian Tea and Tour of the Legislative Building

Date: Friday, Dec 8, 2000 at 1:00 pm *Limited to 12 persons.*

### Docent Tours

*Docent Tours will be available for all volunteers.*

*A monthly list will be posted on The Grange bulletin board at the beginning of each month. We urge you to attend.*

## IN MEMORIUM

The volunteers of The Grange are saddened by the recent death of Alan Suddon. We fondly remember Alan and his wife Mary when they spoke to the Grange volunteers about vintage costumes. Some of the dresses from his collection were on display in The Grange two years ago. Alan had one of the largest collections of vintage dresses in Canada and was a founder of the Costume Society of Ontario in 1970.

On August 28, The Grange was saddened to hear the death of Margaret Peel a long time Sunday volunteer and an active member of the AGO volunteers. She will be missed by her friends here and in "Artful Conversations" a group that she was very active in organizing. A service was held at St James the Less on Thurs. August 31.

## EVENTS IN THE GRANGE

### Reading Art, Picturing Literature

*A unique innovative book club! Art director Tina Urman leads three sessions that include a book review and discussion, followed by a related gallery tour. Books include Girl With a Pearl Earring by Tracy Chevalier, The Sixteen Pleasures by Robert Hellenga and The White Oleander by Janet Fitch. Tina Urman gives literature reviews for book clubs around Toronto.*

Dates: Wednesdays, October 4th, November 8th, December 6th  
1:00 - 3:30 pm, The Grange Music Room  
\$60 / \$48 AGO members

### Decorate for the Holidays with Lidia Tacconelli

*Taking the gracious 19th-century interiors of The Grange for inspiration, interior designer Lidia Tacconelli will demonstrate seasonal table decoration with a twist.*

Date: Wednesday, Nov 8, at 7:00 pm at The Grange  
\$25 / \$20 AGO members

Students will not be making items themselves. Refreshments will be served.

### Music at The Grange

*Classical music from the 1840 to 1910 era, including light quartets, choral programmes and an occasional surprise.*

Date: Sunday, Nov. 12, at 2:00 pm  
Music Room, The Grange  
\$10 / \$8 AGO members

### Music at The Grange

*A Christmas Concert by candlelight with cider and shortbread.*

Date: Wednesday, Dec 6, at 7:30 pm  
Music Room, The Grange  
\$10 / \$8 AGO members

## REMINDER

Please submit your news  
articles for the next  
Grange Newsletter by  
**November 22nd, 2000.**

I can't believe that once again summer is over. I hope that all of you had a healthy and happy one. As September draws closer it seems appropriate to write about "what I did on my summer vacation!"

At the end of May, I presented a paper at the Third Annual Conference on Women & Historic Preservation in Washington, D.C.. Attendees at this conference came from a wide range of backgrounds—archeologists, social historians, anthropologists, museum workers and cultural historians—and covered a wide range of issues from how to publicize and preserve sites associated with women's history to interpreting issues of race, religion and gender. It was a wonderful conference. A highlight for me was attending a separate session co-ordinated by The International Coalition of Historic Site Museums of Conscience. This is a group of museum directors and curators whose sites focus on issues of conscience. The founding members, who presented at the conference, were from: the Lower East Side Tenement Museum in New York, District Six Museum in an area in Cape Town, South Africa that experienced forced re-location during the apartheid years; the Gulag Museum in Russia; the Liberation War Museum in Bangladesh that is attempting to locate and focus attention on the killing fields; Mason des Esclaves in Senegal focusing on the slave trade; Projecto Recordar (To Remember) in Argentina; and The Workhouse in England. These museums are powerful examples of how museums and heritage sites can play a role in creating an awareness, understanding and

memory for social issues.

My paper at the conference did not have nearly that powerful an impact! It was, however, well received. The session was entitled, Women as Stewards of Preservation and my paper used The Grange as a model for examining the role of the volunteer at heritage sites. Changing demographics and economic conditions means that there is no longer the "career volunteer" who has an almost professional commitment, bringing skills and hours to a project. In return, the AGO volunteer structure was a training ground for building leadership and organizational skills within the institution. Today's volunteers have different backgrounds and reasons for volunteering. A recent study by the government—Caring Canadians, Involved Canadians—summarized the profile of today's volunteers by comparing statistics from ten years ago. It found that more people are volunteering, are younger and almost 1 in 3 of all volunteers choose a charitable or not for profit organization. However, only 1/3 of all volunteers account for 81% of volunteer hours so overall the average annual hours contributed by individuals has decreased. People are often volunteering to acquire skills that can be used on the job market rather than to support the institution. Commitment is short (on average about 1 year or less) and participation tends to be project based or focus on a short-term goal. We have seen these changes at The Grange and need to continue to plan how to modify our training programme, requirements and programming to attract new volunteers.

My second conference was the Association of Living History, Farms and Agricultural Museums (ALFAM). This is an amazing organization and they do marvelous conferences. It was held at Connecticut College and hosted by Mystic Seaport and Old Sturbridge Village. We also had a chance to visit Plimouth Plantation. I fell in love with Mystic Seaport—it was so interesting to see a heritage village whose trades were connected with seafaring rather than farming. They also have a modern museum area, ships and a ship-building centre where the reconstruction of the Amistad had been just completed. We also had a great lobster supper!

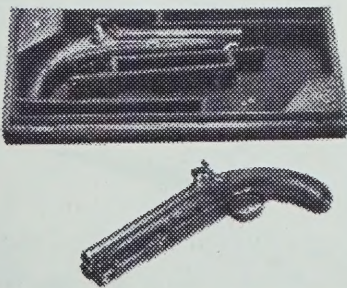
The conference sessions were very good. I was particularly interested in several that focused on museum theatre and interactive drama as interpretive techniques. The most powerful presentation was a keynote address given by Dr. James Horton, Professor of History at George Washington University. While his focus was the inclusion of African-American history, particularly slavery, his ideas embraced diversity. He pointed out that inclusion or adding the variety of experiences of various different groups changes the "story" and that "inclusive history" means more than "including people" it means "changing history". This can be extremely controversial for the visitor as it challenges preconceived notions. Dr. Horton challenged museum professionals to respond to the enormous influence museum educators have and to embrace the challenge of inclusive history.

## DUELLING IN 19th CENTURY UPPER CANADA

The duelling pistols on display in the museum area outside The Grange Library represent an aspect of nineteenth century life in Upper Canada totally different from the quiet elegance of life in The Grange. The pistols were given to The Grange by Mrs. Sidney Small whose ancestors were involved in a number of duelling incidents, two of which resulted in fatalities.

Officially, the law in Upper Canada was opposed to duelling, but duels were considered to be "affairs of honour", and only one person was ever convicted for duelling.

*A pair of matched pistols belonging to John Small, given to The Grange by Mrs Sydney Small, 1941.*



Two incidents included members of the Small family. The first occurred in 1800 when John White, a member of the Legislative Assembly and Canada's first Attorney General, and John Small duelled over Mrs. Small's honour. White was struck by the first shot and died the next day.

In the second of these encounters (1817), the main participants were members of the Jarvis and Ridout families - Samuel Peters Jarvis and Lieutenant Thomas Ridout. A dispute between the families about money matters resulted in, first, fisticuffs, and then pistols. The seconds were Henry John Boulton for Jarvis and James Small (son of John Small) for Ridout. The conduct of the duel was highly questionable and Ridout's death resulted in a coroner's inquest. Jarvis was arrested and imprisoned, but when brought to trial he was acquitted.

Source: Halliday, Hugh A. *Murder among gentlemen: a history of duelling in Canada*. Toronto, Robin Brass Studio, 1999.

NB: A copy of this book is in the Grange Library.

*Submitted by Mary Ash, The Grange Library*

## LA FORCE

La Force was the prison (in Paris) in which Thomas Dixon, Harriet's father, was imprisoned by Napoleon. (see *Thomas Dixon's memoirs in The Grange library*)

Under *l'Ancien Regime* La Force was a debtors prison. During the French Revolution, it was used as a general prison incarcerating people who fell foul of Napoleon. Professor Homer-Dixon, a descendant of Harriet's brother Benjamin, is of the opinion that Thomas Dixon was spying for the British.

In 1792 La Force was the scene of a massacre when 160 prisoners were assassinated by terrorists.

-Avril Stringer

## DID YOU KNOW ?

Did you know that George Strange Boulton (1797 - 1869), third son of D'Arcy Boulton Sr. entered the Home District School on the very first day it opened, June 1st, 1807?

A plaque to commemorate the site of the school at 187 King Street East at George Street was unveiled by The York Pioneer and Historical Society on June 24 of this year.

- Pat Robertson, *The Grange Research*.

## THE REV. JOHN McCAUL - McCAUL STREET

A few weeks ago a visitor introduced himself as a descendant of John McCaul and claimed a connection with The Grange. This meant nothing to me then, so I investigated. I found that John McCaul married a niece of Eliza Jones and so became Henry John Boulton's nephew by marriage.

That and the origin of the name of McCaul Street, of course, was not John McCaul's only distinction.

John McCaul was born in 1807 in Dublin, Ireland. He earned his M.A. at Trinity College, Dublin in 1828, was made a deacon of the Church of Ireland in 1831 and a priest in 1833. In 1835, he was awarded the degrees of LLB (Bachelor of Laws) and LLD (Doctor of Laws). In 1838, the Archbishop of Canterbury was asked to recommend a successor to Joseph H. Harris, principal of Upper Canada College. John McCaul was offered the position and accepted. "He proved to be both popular and successful in his new duties, and his place in provincial society was further secured when in October 1839, he married a daughter of Johan Jones (Eliza's brother) a judge and prominent member of the Family Compact ." <sup>1</sup> At this

## RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE GRANGE LIBRARY

Halliday, Hugh A. *Murder among gentlemen: a history of duelling in Canada*. Toronto: Robin Brass Studio, 1999.

Fearn, Jacqueline. *Domestic bygones*. 2d ed. Buckinghamshire: Shire Pubs., 1999 (c1977).

MacDougall, Robert, 1813 - 1887. *The emigrant's guide to North America*. Ed. by Elizabeth Thompson. Toronto: Natural Heritage / Natural History 1998.

Meyler, Peter. *A stolen life: searching for Richard Pierpoint*, by Peter Meyler and David Meyler. Toronto: Natural Heritage Press, 1999.

Traill, Catharine Parr. *Pearls & pebbles*. Ed. by Elizabeth Thompson. Toronto: Natural Heritage Books, 1999 (1874).

Leslie, Eliza 1787 - 1858. *Miss Leslie's directions for cookery: an unabridged reprint of the 1851 classic*. Mineola, N.Y.: Dover Pubs., 1999.

*Forbidden journeys: fairy tales and fantasies*, by Victorian women writers, Ed. by Nina Auerbach. Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Press, 1992.

### Fruits of Our Labours

I would like to promote the support (by the AGO Volunteers) of two major events:

#### 1. The INTERNATIONAL LECTURE SERIES..

Sept.25, Lecture with William Kentridge;

Oct.15th, Lecture featuring Hilary Spurling talking about Matisse.

*This support is made possible through annual income available from the Volunteer Fund soon to be known as the Volunteer Endowment Trust.*

#### 2. RAPHAEL and HIS CIRCLE- Drawings from Windsor Castle

*This support is possible because of the many hours the Volunteers of the AGO contribute to the Institution.* The AGO recognizes this and celebrates the volunteer accordingly.

- Wanda Dube, President of the AGO Volunteers.

time Upper Canada College was the leading institution of learning in Upper Canada. However, five years later the Governor General, Sir Charles Bagot and Bishop Strachan were finalizing plans to open King's College. Bishop Strachan became its President, John McCaul, Vice-President.

By 1843 classes had commenced at King's College and John McCaul resigned his post at Upper Canada College to devote his energies solely to King's college, becoming president in 1848 following Strachan's resignation.

In 1849 King's College was remodeled into the secular University of Toronto. John McCaul was not fully in favour of this move but remained as president and classics professor. In 1853, an act of the provincial legislature reorganized the University of Toronto "to become solely an examining and degree-granting institution, with instruction in the arts and sciences assigned to the newly established University College. McCaul became president of University College, and remained in that position until his retirement in 1880." <sup>2</sup> - Avril Stringer, *Chair, The Grange*

1. Dictionary of Canadian Biography, Volume XI

2. Ibid